



HANSON

Plymouth County



[NARRATIVE](#)
[GEOGRAPHY](#)
[GOVERNMENT](#)
[DEMOGRAPHICS](#)
[HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS](#)
[TRANSPORTATION](#)
[CULTURE AND RECREATION](#)
[MISCELLANEOUS](#)



NARRATIVE

Narrative

Hanson is a rural pastoral community incorporated in 1820. Residents of the town established a preserve for the native population of the area on 100 acres of land in 1662 when they purchased the land on which the town is situated. Early settlers farmed and lumbered, setting up the first saw mill in 1695 on the Indian Head Brook near the present town hall. There were some early 19th century textile mills in Hanson, as well as shoemakers and lumber mills. Lumbering, making shingles and the cranberry industry dominated the town's economy in the 19th century. In 1912, a huge cranberry packing house was built in Hanson. This, with many later additions, eventually became the national Ocean Spray Corporation. By 1915 there were 21 cranberry growers and 20 poultry farms in a community which has to this day remained significantly agricultural.

The town was named for Alexander Conte Hanson, a Maryland newspaper publisher who upheld the rights of a free press in the early 1800's when he defended his right to condemn the War of 1812. But Hanson, residents say, is much quieter and more peaceful than its namesake was and that, they note, is how they like it.

(Seal supplied by community. Narrative based on information provided by the Massachusetts Historical Commission)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Eastern Massachusetts, bordered by Pembroke on the east, Halifax on the south, East Bridgewater and Whitman on the west, Whitman on the northwest, and Rockland and Hanover on the north. Hanson is about 8 miles east of Brockton, 22 miles southeast of Boston, and 217 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 15.68 sq. miles

Land Area: 15.02 sq. miles

Population: 9,028

Density: 601 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Plymouth Station)

Normal temperature in January.....26.5°F

Normal temperature in July.....71.0°F

Normal annual precipitation.....48.8"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Hanover, Whitman

Regional Planning Agency

Old Colony

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Brockton



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (781) 293-2131

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen
Executive Secretary
Open Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1820

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

| | Number | % | |
|-------------------|--------|------|---|
| Total Registered | 5,341 | | |
| Democrats | 1,347 | 25.2 | % |
| Republicans | 832 | 15.6 | % |
| Other parties | 9 | 0.2 | % |
| Unenrolled Voters | 3,153 | 59.0 | % |

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Hanson town, Plymouth County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

| Subject | Number | Percent | Subject | Number | Percent |
|---|--------|---------|--|--------|---------|
| Total population..... | 9,495 | 100.0 | HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE | | |
| SEX AND AGE | | | Total population..... | 9,495 | 100.0 |
| Male..... | 4,680 | 49.3 | Hispanic or Latino (of any race)..... | 65 | 0.7 |
| Female..... | 4,815 | 50.7 | Mexican..... | 10 | 0.1 |
| Under 5 years..... | 678 | 7.1 | Puerto Rican..... | 20 | 0.2 |
| 5 to 9 years..... | 776 | 8.2 | Cuban..... | 10 | 0.1 |
| 10 to 14 years..... | 777 | 8.2 | Other Hispanic or Latino..... | 25 | 0.3 |
| 15 to 19 years..... | 672 | 7.1 | Not Hispanic or Latino..... | 9,430 | 99.3 |
| 20 to 24 years..... | 434 | 4.6 | White alone..... | 9,144 | 96.3 |
| 25 to 34 years..... | 1,217 | 12.8 | RELATIONSHIP | | |
| 35 to 44 years..... | 1,736 | 18.3 | Total population..... | 9,495 | 100.0 |
| 45 to 54 years..... | 1,484 | 15.6 | In households..... | 9,469 | 99.7 |
| 55 to 59 years..... | 558 | 5.9 | Householder..... | 3,123 | 32.9 |
| 60 to 64 years..... | 345 | 3.6 | Spouse..... | 2,173 | 22.9 |
| 65 to 74 years..... | 484 | 5.1 | Child..... | 3,460 | 36.4 |
| 75 to 84 years..... | 275 | 2.9 | Own child under 18 years..... | 2,491 | 26.2 |
| 85 years and over..... | 59 | 0.6 | Other relatives..... | 424 | 4.5 |
| Median age (years)..... | 36.1 | (X) | Under 18 years..... | 155 | 1.6 |
| 18 years and over..... | 6,813 | 71.8 | Nonrelatives..... | 289 | 3.0 |
| Male..... | 3,295 | 34.7 | Unmarried partner..... | 128 | 1.3 |
| Female..... | 3,518 | 37.1 | In group quarters..... | 26 | 0.3 |
| 21 years and over..... | 6,498 | 68.4 | Institutionalized population..... | 8 | 0.1 |
| 62 years and over..... | 1,010 | 10.6 | Noninstitutionalized population..... | 18 | 0.2 |
| 65 years and over..... | 818 | 8.6 | HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE | | |
| Male..... | 360 | 3.8 | Total households..... | 3,123 | 100.0 |
| Female..... | 458 | 4.8 | Family households (families)..... | 2,544 | 81.5 |
| RACE | | | With own children under 18 years..... | 1,259 | 40.3 |
| One race..... | 9,391 | 98.9 | Married-couple family..... | 2,173 | 69.6 |
| White..... | 9,176 | 96.6 | With own children under 18 years..... | 1,090 | 34.9 |
| Black or African American..... | 105 | 1.1 | Female householder, no husband present..... | 272 | 8.7 |
| American Indian and Alaska Native..... | 22 | 0.2 | With own children under 18 years..... | 131 | 4.2 |
| Asian..... | 33 | 0.3 | Nonfamily households..... | 579 | 18.5 |
| Asian Indian..... | 6 | 0.1 | Householder living alone..... | 461 | 14.8 |
| Chinese..... | 5 | 0.1 | Householder 65 years and over..... | 190 | 6.1 |
| Filipino..... | 4 | - | Households with individuals under 18 years..... | 1,346 | 43.1 |
| Japanese..... | 1 | - | Households with individuals 65 years and over..... | 615 | 19.7 |
| Korean..... | 3 | - | Average household size..... | 3.03 | (X) |
| Vietnamese..... | 9 | 0.1 | Average family size..... | 3.38 | (X) |
| Other Asian ¹ | 5 | 0.1 | HOUSING OCCUPANCY | | |
| Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander..... | - | - | Total housing units..... | 3,178 | 100.0 |
| Native Hawaiian..... | - | - | Occupied housing units..... | 3,123 | 98.3 |
| Guamanian or Chamorro..... | - | - | Vacant housing units..... | 55 | 1.7 |
| Samoa..... | - | - | For seasonal, recreational, or | | |
| Other Pacific Islander ² | - | - | occasional use..... | 11 | 0.3 |
| Some other race..... | 55 | 0.6 | Homeowner vacancy rate (percent)..... | 0.2 | (X) |
| Two or more races..... | 104 | 1.1 | Rental vacancy rate (percent)..... | 2.3 | (X) |
| <i>Race alone or in combination with one</i> | | | HOUSING TENURE | | |
| <i>or more other races: ³</i> | | | Occupied housing units..... | 3,123 | 100.0 |
| White..... | 9,248 | 97.4 | Owner-occupied housing units..... | 2,779 | 89.0 |
| Black or African American..... | 154 | 1.6 | Renter-occupied housing units..... | 344 | 11.0 |
| American Indian and Alaska Native..... | 39 | 0.4 | Average household size of owner-occupied units..... | 3.15 | (X) |
| Asian..... | 57 | 0.6 | Average household size of renter-occupied units..... | 2.11 | (X) |
| Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander..... | - | - | | | |
| Some other race..... | 107 | 1.1 | | | |

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

| | |
|-----------------------|----|
| Conventional State: | 76 |
| Conventional Federal: | 6 |

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

| | |
|----------------------|----|
| State (MRVP: | 0 |
| Federal (Section 8): | 25 |



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Hanson is situated in the Greater Brockton Area, which is strategically located between State Route 128 and Interstate 495, the inner and outer loops around Boston. State Routes 3, 24, and 28 provide easy access to the air, port, and intermodal facilities of Boston and Providence.

Major Highways

Principal highways are State Routes 14, 27, and 58.

Rail

Beginning in 1996-97, commuter rail service to South Station, Boston, will be available from the South Hanson Station in Hanson and from the Whitman Station in neighboring Whitman. The Bay Colony Railroad provides freight rail service to South Hanson. Contact number: (781) 380-3556

Bus

Hanson is not affiliated with any transit authority.

Other

The Marshfield Airport, a General Aviation (GA) facility, is easily accessible. It has a 2,999'x 75' asphalt runway. Instrument approaches available: Non-precision.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

None

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

Cranberry Sp. Hospital

Long Term Care

None

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Department of Housing and Community Development would like to thank the many government agencies noted as having provided information for the community profiles. In addition to these agencies, the Regional Transit Authorities assisted with the transportation component of the profiles. We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of many city and town officials, which enabled us to include information obtainable only at the local level. DHCD would also like to thank the following individuals for providing special help: Leslie A. Kirwan, Deputy Commissioner, Division of Local Services, Department of Revenue; Richard Shibley, Deputy Secretary of State; Bob Beattie of the Department of Public Health; Charles W. Clifford from the Martha's Vineyard Commission; Dennis Coffey of the Executive Office of Transportation and Construction; Donna Fletcher and Christian Jacqz of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs; James Griffin from the MBTA; Karen Loh from Banker & Tradesman; Todd Maio from the Department of Welfare; Geoffrey Morton from the Election Division of the Secretary of State's Office; Stephen R. Muench of the Massachusetts Aeronautics Commission; Rol Murrow of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association; Mary Ann Neary and Emmanuelle Fletcher, reference librarians at the State House Library; Jeff Nellhaus from the Department of Education; and George Sanborn, reference librarian at the State Transportation Library.

NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.